# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

# OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING EVALUATION

UNIT: CARSON STATION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 1994

TIME: 2239 HOURS

LOCATION: CARSON STATION LOBBY

**URN#:** 094-11418-1625-051

**IAB#:** \$008198

**NATURE OF**INCIDENT:
Suspect entered Carson Station lobby and without provocation began shooting at the counter deputy. The deputy was struck once in the arm and pulled from the scene.

Two other deputies returned fire, killing the suspect.

COMPLETED BY: DONALD J. SHIVELY, SERGEANT

**Internal Affairs Bureau** 

**DATE:** 09-29-94

# COUNTY (LOS ANGELES - SHERIFF'S DE TIMENT INCIDENT DATA

WHAT INITIATED INCIDENT					
Call O	bservation X	Search Warrant		Arrest Warrant	
LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE			40.10		
CARSON STATION L	OBBY				
	*				
TYPE OF LOCATION	DHs.				
Residence	Business	Industrial		Parking Lot	
Street	Backyard	Freeway		Rural	
Other	SHERIFF'S STATIO	N			
SHOOTING CONDITIONS					
DATE 09-10-94	TIME 2239	SATURDAY			
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DISTANCE					
APPROXIMATELY 10	) FEET				
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS			52		
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# LOS ANGE S COUNTY - SHERIFF'S DE ARTMENT

### DEPUTY INVOLVED

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## DEPUTY INVOLVED Continued



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PRIOR SHOOTING INC	CIDENTS (ALL KNOWN INCIDENTS WH NTAL DISCHARGES AND SHOTS FIRED	ERE DEPUTY HAS	DISCHARGED A WEAPON HUMANS)
FILE	DATE		YPE

### LOS ANGE S COUNTY - SHERIFF'S DE ARTMENT

### DEPUTY' INVOLVED

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EMPLOY	YEE'S NAME	-				-	-			
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RANK		EM	PLOYEE NO.		UNIT AND DI	VISION / R	EGION	OF ASSIGNME	ENT	
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#### DEPUTY INVOLVED Continued



	ASSIGNMENT HI	STORY	
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PRIOR SHOOTING IN	CIDENTS (ALL KNOWN INCIDENTS WH NTAL DISCHARGES AND SHOTS FIRE	IERE DEPUTY HAS D AT ANIMALS OR	DISCHARGED A WEAPON HUMANS)
FILE	DATE	TY	PE
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### LOS ANGE S COUNTY - SHERIFF'S DE RTMENT

### DEPUTY INVOLVED

SHOOTI	ER						45				
EMPLOYE	E'S NAME										-
BRICK	K, JONATHA	Ň									
RANK			EMPLOYE	E NO.	•	UNIT AND DIV	ISION / RE	GION (	OF ASSIGNMEN	NT	
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SEX	RACE	ACE HEIGHT WEIGHT DATE OF BIRTH						AGE			
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UNIFORM		RAID J	ACKET		PLAIN	CLOTHES			VEST		
YES									NO		
INJURED							DECEA	SED	CORONER'S	CASE	NO.
NO							NO	٠	N/A		
NONÉ	TION OF INJURI	ES									
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WAS TH	E DEPUTY SE	QUEST	ERED PR	IOR TO	THE	NTERVIEW?		Y	ES [X ]	NO	[ ]
WHERE	? CARS	ON ST	TATION					-			
SUPERV	ISED BY: SI	ERGE	ANT PAT	TRICK	JOR	DAN#					
WEAPO	N USED			- 1							
TYPE	-		ь.			AUTHORIZED					
BERET	TTA 92F					YES					
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## DEPUTY INVOLVED Continued



	ASSIGNMENT	HISTORY	
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06-28-92	CARSON STATION/FOR II		DEPUTY
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			***
	DATE		***

# LOS ANGEOS COUNTY - SHERIFF'S DEORTMENT

### SUSPECT/SUBJECT

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ADDRESS		4		-	- £	
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SEX: RA	HISPANIC	5'06"	WEIGHT 250	D.O.B. 07-31-69	AGE 25	DECEASED YES
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TYPE OF SUBSTA UNKNOW!		. 1	N/A	ONDUCTED	•	
ARMED		1	TYPE OF WE			
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NUMBER OF SHO FIVE	OTS FIRED BY SUS	PECT	TWO	HITS		
SUSPECT VEHICE NONE	LE.		-			T <sub>e</sub>
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	CIDENT		•	• ,		
	CIDENT	*				
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	CIDENT					

### LOS ANGE S COUNTY - SHERIFF'S DE RTMENT

WITNESS LIST

SWORN AND ASSIGNMENT	DEPT EMPLOYEES TO INCLUDE NAME, RANK, EMPLOYEE NUMBER, UNIT, AND DIVISION/REGION OF - ALL OTHER WITNESSES TO INCLUDE NAME, ADDRESS (BUSINESS AND HOME) AND TELEPHONE #
WITNESS # 1	CDL#
was intervi Affairs Bu	ewed on 09-11-94 at 0326 hours by Sergeant Donald J. Shively of the Internal reau. The interview was tape recorded.
WITNESS # 2	CDL#
	ewed on 09-11-94 at 0411 hours bySergeant Donald J. Shively of the Internal reau. The interview was tape recorded.
WITNESS # 3	CDL#
	ewed on 09-11-94 at 0500 hours by Sergeant Donald J. Shively of the Internal reau. The interview was tape recorded.
WITNESS # 4	Martinez, Gregory, Deputy, # Carson Station Filed Operations Region II
Affairs Bur	ewed on 09-11-94 at 0600 hours by Sergeant Donald J. Shively of the Internal reau. The interview was tape recorded. The person interviewed was given a copy inistrativeRights: Yes [X] No []
NOTE: T	THIS LIST ONLY CONTAINS THOSE WITNESSES PERSONALLY INTERVIEWED BY I.A.B. INVESTIGATORS.

#### **INCIDENT SUMMARY** \*\*

This investigation details a deputy involved shooting that occurred in the Carson Station lobby. The deputies were not interviewed by Internal Affairs Bureau at the time of the incident. The facts outlining this investigation were gathered from various witness interviews, homicide's tape recorded interviews of the involved deputies, and police reports (See Exhibit "A", Police Reports).

On September 10, 1994, at approximately 2230 hours, Suspect Robert Almeida, MH/25, entered the Carson Station lobby in search of a female who was allegedly in custody at the station. The suspect was smoking a cigarette as he entered the lobby and was told by Deputy Scott Orr that smoking in the lobby was prohibited. Civilian witnesses in the lobby stated that the suspect was agitated about the fact the he was told he could not smoke. They said the suspect exited the lobby and disposed of the cigarette and returned.

The suspect contacted Deputy Robert Frank, lobby deputy, and asked if a female (name unknown) was in custody. Deputy Frank directed the suspect to the jail telephone, located at the south end of the lobby counter, and instructed him to call the jailer. Civilian witnesses stated that the suspect used the jail telephone, but appeared impatient as he waited for a response. Deputy Gregory Martinez, station jailer, stated that the suspect asked for information regarding a female whose name he could not recall. Deputy Martinez stated that he checked his jail book and could not locate any females similar in description or name. Martinez advised the suspect that he could not locate the female. The witnesses said the suspect hung up the telephone after a few moments and moved toward the center of the lobby counter (See Photographs of Scene, Exhibit "B" and sketch Exhibit "C").

The witnesses said that after the suspect moved toward the center of the counter, he attempted to get the attention of Deputy Frank by saying, "excuse me" several times. Deputy Frank said he was answering several telephone calls, but could hear the suspect tapping on the counter as if to gain his attention. Frank said he was standing adjacent to the file cabinet (See Photographs, Exhibit "B") with his right arm resting on the cabinet and the telephone in his left hand. The left side of his body was exposed to the suspect. The witnesses said they saw the suspect withdraw a weapon from the front of his waistband and fire at Deputy Frank. Deputy Frank said he heard the shots and turned to his left (left handed) to withdraw his weapon from his holster. Frank said he felt a tingle in his arm and realized that his hands did not work. He said he dropped to the floor and crawled in the direction of the dispatch door. Deputy Frank was struck in the left arm causing a through and through wound which exited and struck his right arm. Frank also received a superficial wound to the left side of his back.

I.A.B. NOTE: During the shooting, the 911 call that was being handled by Deputy Frank was left off the hook. The shooting was tape recorded on the 911 system (See Exhibit "D", 911 tape).

Deputies Aaron Bartsch and Jonathan Brick were working as the Watch Deputy and Dispatcher respectively, inside the dispatch center. Deputy Scott Orr, assigned to a field unit was also inside the dispatch center carrying on a conversation with deputies Bartsch and Brick. All three deputies heard and then saw, from behind the one way bullet proof dispatch window, the suspect firing. They said Deputy Frank yelled for help.

Deputy Orr exited the dispatch center and saw Deputy Frank pushing himself, with his feet, toward the dispatch center. Orr said he grabbed Deputy Frank and pulled him toward the dispatch door.

Orr said he took cover behind a file cabinet (See Photographs, Exhibit "B") and saw the suspect waving his gun as if he was looking for a target. Deputy Orr said he fired several shots at the suspect, who returned fire. Orr said he fired again and saw the suspect's head "jerk" backwards. He said the suspect turned to his left and fell to the floor on his right side. Deputy Orr said he moved to a position behind the lobby counter. Orr fired a total of eight rounds at the suspect.

Simultaneously, Deputy Brick said he exited the dispatch center and waited for a lull in the shooting to move to a position of cover at the south end of the lobby counter near a closet door (See Photographs, Exhibit "B" and sketch Exhibit "C"). Brick said Deputy Orr advised him that the suspect was down, but was still armed and moving. Deputy Brick looked over the counter and saw the suspect laying on his side, but looked as if he was attempting to roll over and get up. Brick said he did not want the suspect to get up again and start shooting. He said he fired three or four shots at the suspect and then returned to the cover of the counter. Deputy Brick said he checked the suspect again and saw that he was motionless. Brick said he was cognizant of the witnesses in the lobby and was careful to direct his fire.

Deputy Bartsch stated that he witnessed the incident from inside the dispatch center. Bartsch said that he had a clear view of the suspect and knew that he had to take some action to prevent the suspect from shooting anyone else. He said it was his intention to direct several rounds in the same location and penetrate the bullet proof glass and stop the suspect. Deputy Bartsch said after he fired his first round his service pistol malfunctioned. The round he fired did not penetrate the bullet proof glass. Deputy Bartsch said he dropped down below the counter and cleared the malfunction. He said after he cleared his weapon the suspect was down and he concentrated on giving aid to Deputy Frank.

Three citizens, MH/43, MH/43, MH/27, and MH/27, and MH/40, were all present in the lobby at the time of the incident and were not injured. Their accounts of what occurred are similar to those of the deputies up to the point where the deputies returned fire. The witnesses stated that when the deputies returned fire, they (Witnesses) were distracted with concern for their own safety and did not see what occurred.

Suspect Almeida sustained multiple gunshot wounds to his head, chest, abdomen, and arms. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Deputy Frank was transported to Harbor General Hospital and then to Arcadia Methodist Hospital where he was listed in good condition.

No motive was determined in this shooting. The involved deputies stated that the suspect did not appear to be agitated by any actions of the deputies.

I.A.B. NOTE: Captain Joseph James, Carson Station Commander, stated that a request for some type of protection for the Lobby/Complaint personnel has been requested. The two complaint positions are located outside of the dispatch center and directly behind the lobby counter. The only protection afforded is the wood counter itself.